9th October 1928]

Mr. C. Gopala Menon :— " May I inquire whether this increase is in proportion to the increase given to the permanent staff of the Government Press ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " I am not sure of it."

Rates of payment to pieceworkers in the Government Press.

* 440 Q.—Mr. C. Gopala Menon : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the various rates of payment to pieceworkers from the time the piecework system has been introduced ?

A.—Government presume that the question refers to the Government Press.

The piecework system was first introduced in the Government Press in 1861. The rate of remuneration then fixed was two annas per 1,000 ens for solid matter. This rate was varied in the case of other kinds of work according to their nature.

In January 1919, a war allowance of Rs. 6 per mensem was sanctioned on account of the increased cost of living.

In April 1920, the rate of remuneration was raised from two annas per 1,000 ens to 3 annas per 1,000 ens for solid matter and proportionately in other cases ; the war allowance of Rs. 6 per mensem was abolished at the same time. There has been no further revision of the rates.

Mr. C. Gopala Menon :— " I find from the appendix that the increase given to the permanent staff amounts to about 100 per cent, whereas according to the last paragraph of the answer the pieceworkers were given only one anna increase a day in 1920. That means only 50 per cent increase. Will the Government see that they are given the same proportion of increase as that given to the permanent staff of the Government Press ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " The Government considered the question, and I do not think it is possible for us to do so."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :— " May I know, Sir, whether, after taking away the war allowance of Rs. 6 and increasing the rate from 2 annas to 3 annas, the Government considered in how many cases men who discharged the same amount of work got the same pay as they were getting previously without any advantage being derived after the increase of rates ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " I will look into the question, Sir."

Revision of the scale of pay of the technical establishment of the Government Press.

* 441 Q.—Mr. C. Gopala Menon : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(a) to place on the table of the House the copies of the G.O. No. 711, Finance, dated 11th July 1921, and of the G.O. No. 823, Finance, dated 3rd October 1922, containing proposals regarding the revision of the scale of pay of the technical establishments of the Government Press ; and